

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) In a system for providing wireless data communication using a first wireless communications protocol, said system having a host computer and an access point for conducting wireless data communications with mobile units using said first wireless communications protocol, a method for conducting ~~out-of-band~~ management communications between the host computer and the ~~with said~~ access point comprising:

~~providing said access point with a radio module operating according to a second wireless communications protocol;~~

receiving, by an interface of the access point, the management communications from the host computer over a first connection; and

when a communication failure between the host computer and the access point occurs over the first connection, a radio module of the access point receiving the said management communications ~~at said access point~~ from a wireless terminal over a second connection, which is different from the first connection, using a said second wireless communications protocol to allow management of the access point.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 further comprising at least one of configuring one or more resources of said access point and adjusting one or more parameters of said access point responsive to said received management communications.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the said first wireless communications protocol is an 802.11 Protocol and the said second wireless communications protocol is Bluetooth.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, further comprising authenticating said management communications.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein said second wireless communications protocol is Bluetooth.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 4 further comprising associating said radio module as a slave unit.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising authenticating said management communications.

8. (Currently Amended) An access point for use in a wireless data communication system, comprising:

a first interface for conducting data communications with one or more computers and for receiving management communications from the one or more computers over a first connection;

a first radio module using a first wireless communications protocol for wirelessly transmitting first wireless data messages received from the one or more computers at said first interface to mobile units, and for receiving second data messages from the mobile units and relaying said the second data messages to the one or more computers via the said first interface;

at least one processor connected to the said first interface and the said radio module for controlling the said access point~~[[,]]~~; and

a second radio module operating using a second wireless communications protocol, which is different from the said first wireless communications protocol, for receiving the wireless management communications from a wireless terminal over a second connection when a communication failure between the one or more computers and the access point occurs over the first connection.

9. (Previously Presented) The access point as specified in claim 8, wherein said second radio module is arranged to operate as a slave module using a master slave protocol.

10. (Currently Amended) The access point as specified in claim 8, wherein the said second radio module is arranged to operate as a slave module using a ~~the~~ Bluetooth protocol.

11. (Previously Presented) The access point as specified in claim 8 wherein said processor is further arranged to authenticate communications via said second radio module.

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
an interface;
a first radio module adapted to provide data communications with mobile units according to a first wireless communications protocol;
a second radio module adapted to communicate with a wireless terminal according to a second wireless communications protocol, which is different from the first wireless communications protocol; and
a processor communicatively coupled to the interface, the first radio module, and the second radio module, the processor adapted to provide data messages from the interface to the first radio module,
receive management communications from a remote computer via the interface, and
when a communication failure between the remote computer and the apparatus occurs over the interface, to receive the management communications from the wireless terminal via the second radio module
~~allow data communications with one or more remote devices over a first communications protocol; and~~
~~allow access to one or more management features of the apparatus over a second communications protocol responsive to received management communications, wherein the second communications protocol is a wireless protocol and is different from the first communications protocol.~~
13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the processor is adapted to allow ~~the~~ data communications through [[a]] the first radio module and to allow access to ~~the~~ management features through [[a]] the second radio module.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the second radio module operates as a slave unit at least during a portion of the time the access to the management features is allowed.

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the processor is further adapted to authenticate communications associated with the access of the management features.

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the first wireless communications protocol is an 802.11 protocol and the second wireless communications protocol is a Bluetooth protocol.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the processor is further adapted to allow monitoring of the data communications ~~over the second communications protocol.~~

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~further comprising at least one of updating wherein receiving the management communications comprises receiving one or more communications selected from a group of communications that includes updated system information of said access point, modifying modified system programming, information concerning association with the mobile units, data for use by access points, and software for use by access points of said access point, and modifying communications parameters of said access point responsive to said received management communications.~~

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising monitoring the wireless data ~~communications~~ communication using said ~~the~~ second wireless communications protocol.

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20. (Currently Amended) The access point as specified in claim 8, wherein the at least one processor further allows monitoring the data communications using ~~said~~ the second wireless communications protocol.